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Concluding Paragraph Connection Decade Paper

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Point of View

Thesis Statement

**Bad boys, trouble makers, and Rockaholics**

Did you know that Guns n’ Roses album Appetite for Destruction has sold more than 28 million copies since its release in 1987(Wikipedia). I chose to do Guns n’ Roses from the 80’s decade. I am one of the biggest fans for that album but also Guns n’ Roses itself. I like they way Slash mimic his guitar to make some of the very best guitar solos in rock history. I also learned to like the raspy and rough voice of Axl Rose. I always know a Guns n’ Roses song when it comes on the radio because Axl Roses has a unique voice that no singer that I know of can even begin to sound like he does. Many people are surprise to know that Guns n’ Roses were once to separate bands. There was L.A. Guns and Hollywood Roses. As individual bands they never did anything special but once they combined together they formed one of the most well known bands of the 80’s.

The story of Guns n’ Roses begins in 1985 when members from L.A. Guns and Hollywood Roses combined to make a new band. L.A. Guns provided Tracii Guns, Ole Beich, and Rob Gardner. From Hollywood Roses came Axl Rose and Izzy Stradlin . They named the band by combining the last name of 2 group member names. Shortly after the band started Tracii Guns was fired and replaced by Slash. Ole Beich was also fired and he was replaced by Duff McKagan. As the band started its first mini tour they had drummer Rob Gardner quit and he was replaced by Steven Adler. Finally, starting in 1986 the band started to work in the studio and they decided to release an EP so the band could at least stay alive. The EP which was named LIVE ?!\*@ Like a Suicide . They only make 10,000 copies of the EP.

Then on July 21, 1987 Guns n’ Roses released their first album Appetite for Destruction. Welcome to the Jungle was issued as its first single with an accompanying music video (Wikipedia). The album and the single however did not hit it off right away. It wasn’t till David Geffen (founder of Geffen Records) asked MTV to play the song in after hour’s notation. It only got played once at 4 a.m. on Sunday, but that was enough for the fans to take notice. Suddenly fans started requesting the video and song. “Sweet Child O’Mine” was the album’s second US single that was co-written by Axl Rose as a poem for his girlfriend and future wife Erin Everly (Wikipedia). It had success and the cross-gender appeal of the song. The song and music video saw heavy airplay on radio and MTV. In the summer of 1988 it became a smash hit reaching the top of the charts in the U.S. Surprisingly enough Slash admitted “It was actually my least favorite song we ever wrote…I hate it, but it turns out to be our greatest song ever.” Then they re-issued Welcome to the Jungle as the single and it quickly reached number 7 in the U.S. Then Paradise City and its video reached the airwaves and peaked at number 5 in the U.S. At that time the band’s touring success put the album to number 1 on the Billboard charts (Wikipedia).

In the start of 1988 Guns n’ Roses decided to take a world tour in support of Appetite for Destruction. They traveled across the US and were invited to the Monsters of Rock Festival in Leicestershire, England (Wikipedia). While at the Monsters of Rock Festival the capacity crowd of 100,000 people began surging the stage when Guns n’ Roses started playing. Rose tried to calm the crowd and have them move from the stage; sadly however 2 fans were trampled to death (Wikipedia). Many tried to blame the band for the deaths but the head of security admitted that Guns n’ Roses had stopped playing as soon as they were told to. However the band gave itself a bad look and the Appetite for Destruction album earned them the title “the world’s most dangerous band”. They also received negative media attention from the often intoxication on and off the stage. During 1988 they released their second album G N’ R Lies. It included the four songs from LIVE ?!\*@ Like a Suicide and accompanied by 4 acoustic songs. The song reached number 2 on the Billboard music charts (Wikipedia).